

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The office action dated May 14, 2008 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

By this Response, claim 1 is amended. No new matter is added. Accordingly, claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-12 and 21 are currently pending, of which claims 15-20 are withdrawn as the result of an earlier restriction requirement. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-12, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with written description requirement. Applicants have amended the claims to comply with the written description requirement, as required by the Examiner in the Office Action. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are requested.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911.

Application No.: 10/717,542
Amendment dated August 14, 2008
Response to Office Action dated May 14, 2008

Docket No.: 8734.257.00-US

Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

Dated: August 14, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

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